



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

December 9, 2005

News Release

MISSISSIPPI MAN CONVICTED OF POSSESSING CHILD PORN

More than 500 computer images contained child pornography

ABERDEEN, Miss. — An Amory man was found guilty Dec. 2 by a federal grand jury for possessing child pornography, which resulted from an investigation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents.

Richard Moore, 39, was initially indicted by a federal grand jury in the Northern District of Mississippi on Feb. 24. The U.S. Marshal Service arrested Moore March 9 as he appeared in court for a separate incident.

Monroe County Sheriff's officers and Amory police officers were conducting a burglary investigation at Moore's residence, which resulted in the seizure of various pieces of evidence, including his personal computer and a printed image of child pornography. ICE special agents joined the investigation to follow up on the child pornography evidence. A forensic examination of Moore's computer files revealed more than 500 images consisting of child pornography.

"Predators exploit children in many different ways," said Michael A. Holt, ICE New Orleans special agent-in-charge. "ICE will continue to work with U.S. Attorneys and law enforcement agencies to hold accountable those who exploit and prey on the most vulnerable members of our society."

This case is part of ICE's nationwide initiative known as Operation Predator which is designed to protect children from sexual predators, including those who travel abroad to have sex with minors. Internet child pornographers and criminal alien sex offenders and child traffickers are also included under this initiative. Since Operation Predator was launched in July 2003, ICE has arrested more than 6,800 individuals nationwide, including 27 in Mississippi.

ICE conducted this investigation jointly with the Monroe County Sheriff's Office and the Amory, Mississippi Police Department. Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul D. Roberts is prosecuting the case.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of four integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.